

JOHN BURROUGHS HIGH SCHOOL

Concert Band

Tana Barnett, Instrumental Music Association Director

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office hours: lunchtime, 5th period, Tuesdays 3-5pm

I always loved music; whoso has skill in this art is of good temperament, fitted for all things. We must teach music in schools; a schoolmaster ought to have skill in music, or I would not regard him.

Martin Luther (1483-1546)

Course Objectives

1. To improve each student's musicianship by developing the highest possible performance standards
2. To improve each student's perception of teaching, rehearsing, and conducting techniques through direction, implementation, and modeling of a variety of available methods
3. To improve each student's awareness of composers and repertoire of serious artistic merit by programming works that are recognized as meeting this criterion.

Eligibility

Students must maintain a minimum of 2.0 GPA to participate in any IMA activity.

Participation

In addition to being a performing member of the Burroughs High Concert band, students are expected to work with the IMA Booster Club in fundraising to supply necessary operating capital for the program. All IMA parents are considered members of the Booster Club, are invited to attend monthly meetings, and are highly encouraged to volunteer some time in fundraising or organizational efforts. Please see a Booster Board member and let them know your skills as a volunteer so your special traits and availability can be utilized within the IMA.

Conduct

General

- 1) All BUSD and Burroughs High rules apply to the concert band during class time, rehearsal, performance, field trips, and fundraising events.
- 2) Parents are financially responsible for any property damage or theft done by their students at any band event.
- 3) The possession or use of alcoholic beverages, cigarettes, or drugs is not tolerated. If a student is found with any form of these substances, an administrator will be notified and the administrator will determine the consequences for said action. Consequences may include (but are not limited to) suspension, expulsion, withdrawal from a band trip, or removal from the band. Please notify the director in writing if students need any prescription/non prescription medications before travel.
- 4) Any harassment of a sexual nature, including, but not limited to:
 - a. Oral harassment such as derogatory comments, jokes, or slurs;

Music hath charms to soothe a savage beast, to soften rocks, or to bend a knotted oak.

William Congreve (1670-1729)

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71% of Americans surveyed by the Gallup Poll believe that teenagers who play an instrument are less likely to have disciplinary problems.

Gallup Poll, "American Attitudes Toward Music," 2003

- b. Physical harassment such as unnecessary, unwelcome or offensive touching, or impeding or blocking movement;
 - c. Visual harassment such as derogatory or offensive posters, cards, cartoons, graffiti, drawings, or gestures; and
 - d. unwelcome sexual advances, requests, or demands for sexual favors, and other oral or physical conduct of a sexual nature
- is ABSOLUTELY prohibited and will result in student suspension or expulsion, as per District Policy 48980(h) and 5000.1
- 5) Criminal activities, while under the supervision of the IMA, will be reported to the proper authorities immediately. Per Ed Code 48900, all disciplinary actions will be determined by the BUSD administration.

Classroom

- 1) Students must be in their assigned seats with all music, folder, pencil, and necessary equipment for their instrument (please see supply list) when the bell rings or be marked tardy. Burroughs tardy policy will be strictly enforced.
- 2) Good manners, common courtesy, positive attitude, and proper hygiene are expected of all students at all band classes, rehearsals, and activities. Disruptive or defiant students will be given an office referral. Subsequent infractions will call for removal of the student from the class.

Competitions/Trips

- 1) Prior to departure, all belongings are subject to search.
- 2) As representatives of JBHS, all students and adults are expected to exhibit good manners and excellent sportsmanship. Students and adults must treat other performing groups and their directors with utmost respect. At competitions, students are expected to show appreciation for other groups, extend congratulations, and avoid at all costs any negative comments or sounds. Student leaders and adults are expected to lead by both musical and ethical example, being consistently prepared and treating all other students with respect and appreciation.
- 6) Students and adults must treat facilities with utmost respect and are expected to leave all facilities visited or used as clean or cleaner than they found them.
- 7) Student musicians are expected to stay in groups of three at all times. For early release from a trip or competition, parents must obtain written approval from a school administrator.
- 8) If a student is to be sent home due to an infraction of the aforementioned rules, it will be at the parents' expense. If a student must be accompanied home by an adult, that adult's transportation will also be at the parents' expense, per BUSD policy.
- 9) Students are to abide by all bus rules, read before departure, on each trip. Failure to heed bus driver directions while aboard the buses is grounds for bus cleanup, school detention, or dismissal from the event.

The schools that produced the highest academic achievement in the United States today are spending 20% to 30% of the day on the arts, with special emphasis on music.

International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IAEEA) Test, 1988

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High school music students have been shown to hold higher grade point averages (GPA) than non-musicians in the same school.

National Educational Longitudinal Study of 1988

Grading Policy

Class Attendance and Preparedness

35%

- Come to class on time with all necessary supplies and your music prepared. (Read: practice daily) Daily attendance will be taken and marks will be given for class performance.
- Participate in sectionals. You must meet as a section once a week for 30 minutes to rehearse your parts.

Performances

40%

- Attend all performances. Observe the call time punctually and follow the dress code appropriate to the performance

Homework

25%

- Weekly quizzes will be given to check your musical progress: sometimes we will test on scales, sometimes on excerpts from the music
- At least twice a semester you will be required to turn in taped playing test
- Complete the activities in the course journal to the best of your ability. Journals will be evaluated every 6 weeks.

Make-up Assignments

In a performance-based course, it is extremely difficult to make up work. Any homework or quizzes missed due to an excused absence can be made up within two days' time of a student's return to class. Performances, however, because of the nature of the assessment, can not be made up. If a performance must be missed for a legitimate reason (severe illness, death of a family member, or equally severe emergency), exceptions will be made. All parties concerned (teacher, student, parents) will reach a reasonable conclusion for a make-up assignment or assessment.

Calendar

Winter Concert	Nov 16, TBD
Solo and Ensemble Concert	Feb, TBD
Solo and Ensemble Competition	Feb/March, TBD
Concert Festival	March 21, all day
SCSBOA Concert Competition	TBD
Spring Concert	May 22
Graduation	June 5

All events list above are mandatory. Final dates will be given to students and posted on jbhsband.org by Sept 15.

Music speaks of Platonic truth - the idea river rather than the polluted reality, love as we dream it rather than we experience it, grief noble and uplifting rather than our distracted weeping. It is necessary to our survival and our sanity.

Pam Brown

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*Music majors are the most likely group of college grads to be admitted to medical school.
Lewis Thomas, Case for Music in the Schools, Phi Delta Kappa, 1994*

SUPPLIES

Collecting and preparing your supplies is your first assignment. I will check supplies at the beginning of the second week.

• ALL STUDENTS

- Three ring binder with dividers and binder paper
- Tuner
- Pencil
- Metronome

FLUTES	cleaning rod with rag or swab
OBOE	two extra (working) reeds, small cup to fill with water to soak reeds
CLARINET	four extra reeds (Vandoren, at least 3) in reed case, adequate mouthpiece and barrel
BASSOON	two extra reeds, small cup to fill with water to soak reeds, lyre, seat strap, crutch
SAXES	adequate concert mouthpiece (Vandoren AL4, Selmer C*or S90, Yamaha 5 or comparable) four extra reeds (Vandoren classical, strength 3)
TRUMPET	adequate concert mouthpiece, valve oil, cleaning snake, slide grease,
F HORN	slide grease, mouthpiece
TROMBONE	adequate mouthpiece (must match the bore), cleaning snake, slide grease, slide oil, small spray bottle for slide
EUPHONIUM	adequate mouthpiece, valve oil, slide grease
TUBA	adequate mouthpiece, valve oil, slide grease
PERCUSSION	Set of all concert sticks in a carrying case including but not limited to: Lightweight snare sticks, medium yarn mallets, plastic mallets, medium timpani mallets, triangle beater I recommend Vic Firth Education Pack 2 or Promark Scholastic Pro Pak

IMPORTANT FOR EVERY WIND STUDENT

A quality mouthpiece (or barrel) can make a BIG difference in your sound. Be sure to purchase one for use this year. If you are unsure what to purchase, ask your director, private teacher, or helpful music store salesperson

EVERY STUDENT, EVEN STUDENTS WHO BORROW AN INSTRUMENT FROM THE SCHOOL, NEEDS HIS OR HER OWN MOUTHPIECE.

These supplies can be found on a variety of websites and at your local music stores.

I highly recommend Interstate music www.interstatemusic.com, Woodwind and Brasswind www.wwbw.com. If you are in need of a new mouthpiece, a trip to Baxter Northup in Sherman Oaks may be what you need. The knowledgeable staff is incredibly helpful- they will see to it that you try several mouthpieces and pick one that works for you- and your budget! Be sure to bring your instrument and reeds, if applicable.

The world's top academic countries place a high value on music education. Hungary, Netherlands and Japan have required music training at the elementary and middle school levels, both instrumental and vocal, for several decades.

1988 International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IAEEA) Test

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Contract

Please sign, detach, and return to your director by August 31. This is your first assignment and will count as 10 points toward your preparedness grade.

I agree to the terms of the course and will uphold to the best of my ability the values outlined in the syllabus.

Student _____ print name _____

Parent _____ print name _____

Home phone _____

Email address _____